

## **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 12 and 14-44 are pending. Claims 1-11 and 13 are canceled. Claims 45 through 52 are withdrawn. Claims 12 and 14-26 are amended to incorporate subject matter the Examiner indicates is allowable. Support for the claim amendments can be found in the claims as originally filed. No new matter is added.

Applicants have amended some claims and canceled others. Applicants do not concede that the subject matter encompassed by the earlier presented claims is not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner. Applicants canceled and amended claims in this response solely to facilitate expeditious prosecution of this application. Applicants traverse all rejections and respectfully reserve the right to pursue the earlier-presented claims, and additional claims, in one or more continuing applications.

### **I. 35 U.S.C. § 102: Anticipation**

The Examiner rejects claims 1 and 2 as anticipated by *Shelley* (U.S. Patent Application Publication 2003/0230719). The Examiner rejects claim 13 anticipated by XP-002329830. Applicants have canceled these claims, thereby rendering the rejections moot.

### **II. 35 U.S.C. § 103(a): Asserted Obviousness**

The Examiner rejects claims 3, 5, 7, and 10 as obvious in view of *Shelley* and *Statz* (U.S. Patent 5,562,989). The Examiner rejects claims 4, 6, 8, and 9 as obvious in view of *Shelley* and XP-002329830. The Examiner rejects claim 11 as obvious in view of *Shelley*, *Statz*, and XP-002329830. The Examiner rejects claims 14, 16, and 17 as obvious in view of XP-002329830 in view of *Shelley*. These claims have been canceled, thereby rendering the rejections moot.

### **III. Allowable Subject Matter**

The Examiner states that claims 27-44 are allowed, and that claims 12, 14, and 16-26 are objected-to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if re-written in independent form including all of the features of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have amended claims 12, 14, and 16-26 accordingly. Therefore, all remaining claims should be in condition for allowance.

#### IV. Conclusion

The subject application is patentable over the cited references. Therefore, the subject application should now be in condition for allowance. Applicants invite the Examiner to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution of this application.

DATE: July 30, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

/Theodore D. Fay, III/

Theodore D. Fay, III  
Reg. No. 48,504  
Yee & Associates, P.C.  
P.O. Box 802333  
Dallas, TX 75380  
(972) 385-8777  
Attorney for Applicants